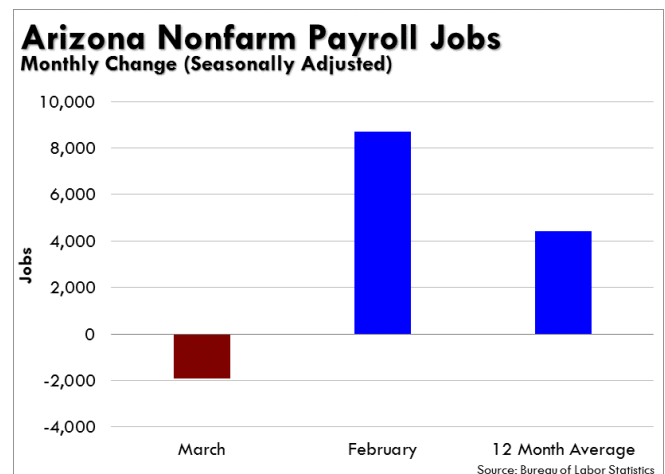
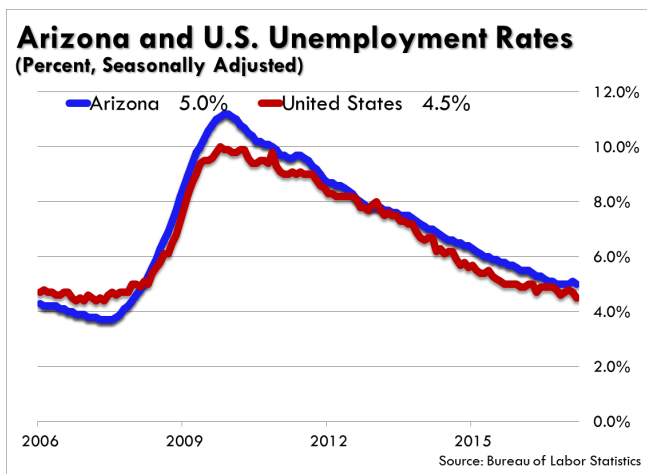


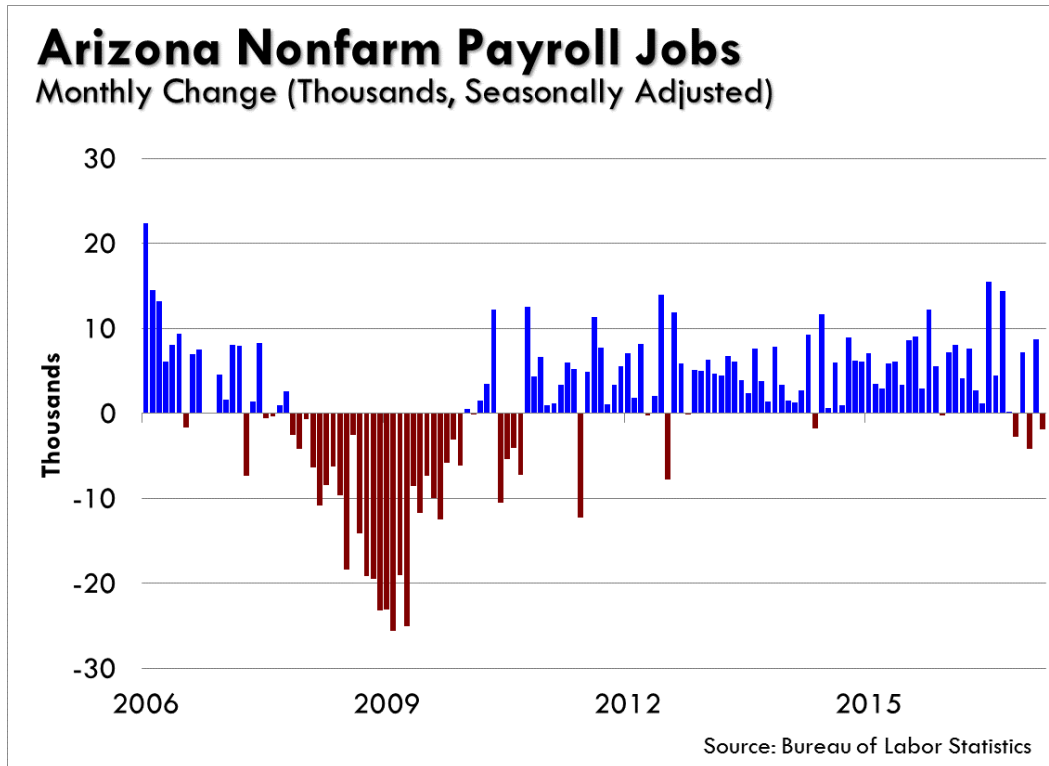


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Arizona lost 1,900 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 5 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Arizona added 53,000 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.5 percentage point from 5.5 percent.
- **In March, Arizona's private sector added 100 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 54,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Arizonans fell by 1,020 in March**, and over the past year 114,166 Arizonans found jobs.
- Arizona's **labor force participation rate increased to 61.1 percent** from 60.8 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.9 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Arizona Payroll Employment

Arizona lost 1,900 jobs, or 0.07 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Arizona added 8,700 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Arizona increased by 53,000, or 1.97 percent. Arizona nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

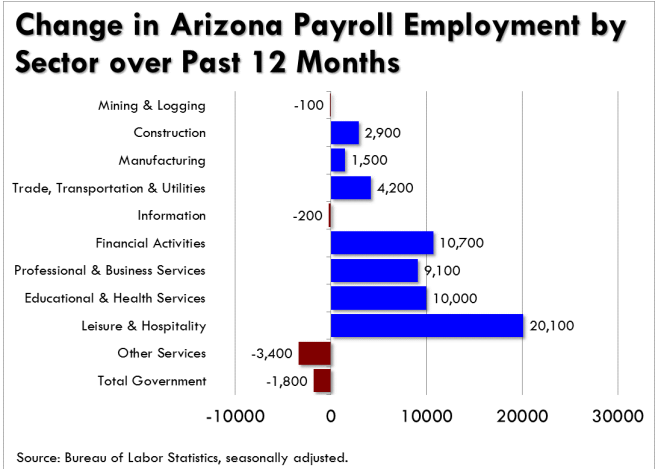
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Arizona ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Arizona's private-sector added 100 jobs, or 0.00 percent. The private-sector in Arizona added 8,600 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Arizona increased by 54,800, or 2.41 percent. Arizona private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Arizona ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Leisure & Hospitality (+4,300) and Construction (+1,600). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-2,400) and Total Government (-2,000).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+20,100) and Financial Activities (+10,700). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Other Services (-3,400) and Total Government (-1,800).



Arizona Labor Force Statistics

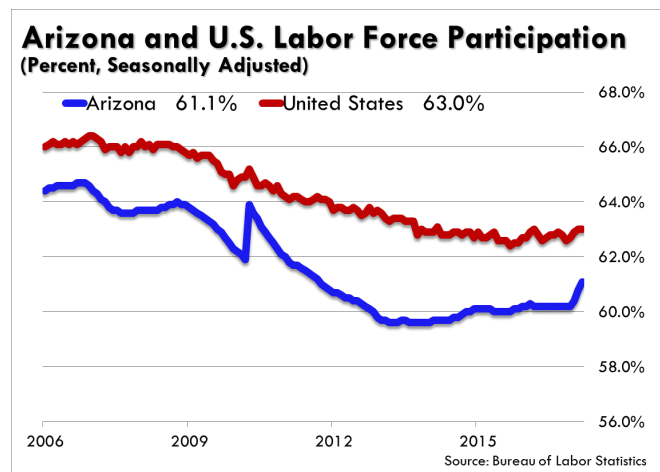
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Arizona rose to 61.1 percent in March from 60.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 39 have a higher labor force participation rate than Arizona. The labor force participation rate in Arizona is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Arizona was 64.0 percent in October 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Arizona occurred in July 1995 when the labor force participation rate hit 66.9 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 59.6 percent in January 2014. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in April 1978 when the labor force participation rate hit 59.5 percent. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Arizona civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 58.0 percent in March from 57.7 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 39 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Arizona. The



employment-to-population ratio in Arizona is 1.0 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Arizona was 61.6 percent in April 2007. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Arizona occurred in August 1995 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 63.3 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 55.0 percent in March 2013. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 53.2 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

